

**FINAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSION
ON
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington St., Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789**

November 2011

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2012

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November 2012

ANNUAL REPORT

Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

Current statute (IC 2-5-20) directs the Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs to study the following:

- (1) Matters relating to veterans and veterans' affairs.
- (2) Matters relating to the active and reserve members of the armed forces of the United States.

The Commission may also study other topics assigned by the Legislative Council or as directed by the Commission's chair.

The Commission is required to file a report with the General Assembly by November 1 of each year.

The Commission consists of 12 members; 4 members of the House of Representatives, 4 members of the Senate, and 4 lay members. The chair of the Legislative Council appoints the chair of the Commission.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Commission was assigned no additional topics of study by the Legislative Council. The Commission met two times during the 2012 interim session: August 27, 2012, and September 11, 2012.

III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

At the August 27 meeting, the Commission heard testimony from (1) Major General Umbarger, Indiana National Guard, updating the Commission on the work of the National Guard over the past year; (2) Mr. Tom Applegate, Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA), updating the Commission on the work of the IDVA over the past year; (3) Mr. Richard Jewell, American Legion, regarding areas of concern for veterans; (4) Mr. Ian DePlanque, regarding areas of concern for veterans; and (5) Mr. Darrell Hansel, regarding areas of concern for veterans. The Commission also discussed allowing veterans who receive a property tax deduction to apply any unused amount to their motor vehicle excise tax.

At the September 11 meeting, the Commission heard testimony from (1) Ms. Nicole Kenney, Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA), concerning veteran procurement preference programs and (2) Captain Brian Stoddard concerning veteran procurement preference programs. Additionally, the Commission discussed (1) certification of county veteran service officers

(CVSOs) and (2) motor vehicle excise tax credits for veterans.

For more information on the Commission's meetings, meeting minutes for the Commission can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

IV. COMMISSION FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission took no action, had no findings, and made no recommendations.

WITNESS LIST

Tom Applegate, Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs

Ian DePlanque

Darrell Hansel

Richard Jewell, American Legion

Nicole Kenney, Indiana Department of Administration

Captain Brian Stoddard

Major General Umbarger, Indiana National Guard